## Maurice Hinchey NEWS 26 TH CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT, NEW YORK

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## USDA AWARDS \$2.2 MILLION FOR NEW PALTZ WATER UPGRADES

WASHINGTON -- U.S. Rep. Maurice Hinchey (D-NY) announced today that the U.S. Department of Agriculture has approved a \$2.18 million low-interest loan to the Village of New Paltz to upgrade its water system. The award will allow New Paltz to replace an aging, leaking water tank and replace several old water lines.

"I believe that the federal government can play a critical role in maintaining the infrastructure of our communities, helping to ease the burden of repairs on local taxpayers and provide better service to local residents," said Hinchey. "This award will ensure that the village has a water infrastructure that's prepared to grow along with the community."

The Village of New Paltz intends to replace an aging 400,000-gallon tank with a new one million-gallon tank, increasing the system's capacity to deal with future population growth. The village also plans to install new water mains, valves, hydrants, meters and house connections for residences on Pencil Hill Road, Elting Avenue, Tricor Avenue and Southside Avenue.

"We probably would not have been able to afford to make these needed upgrades without federal support," said Village of New Paltz Mayor Thomas Nyquist. "We are very grateful for Congressman Hinchey's assistance in securing funding."

The USDA has awarded a \$2,180,000 loan to the village through its Water and Waste Disposal Direct Loan program, allowing New Paltz to finance the cost of the needed repairs and upgrades over 38 years at an interest rate of 4.5 percent.